CLAIMS

1. An electronic device, comprising:

a rotary operation unit that is freely rotatable,

an active element for detecting rotation of said rotary operation unit, and

control means for controlling power supply to said active element depending on a state of the device.

2. An electronic device according to claim 1, wherein

said active element includes a first and second active elements,

first and second switching means for switching on and off the power supplied to each of said first and second active elements are provided, and

said control means turns on said first and second switching means in an normal use time, and turns on said first switching means and turns off said second switching means in a first stand-by time.

3. An electronic device according to claim 2, wherein

said control means further turns off said first and second switching means in a second stand-by time after key-operation is forbidden.

4. An electronic device according to claim 2, further comprising:

pulse-detecting means for detecting a pulse signal transmitted from the first active element in response to

rotation of said rotary operation unit to generate an interrupt signal, wherein

said control means turns said second switching means on by the interrupt signal from said pulse-detecting means when said rotary operation unit is operated to rotate in said first stand-by time.

5. An electronic device according to claim 4, wherein

said control means turns said first switching means or both of said first and second switching means on, when said setting of forbidden key-operation is released in said second stand-by time.

6. An electronic device according to claim 1, wherein

said active element includes a first and second active elements,

power-supply-control means for turning on and off the power supplied to said second active element is further included, and

said control means turns on said power-supply-control means in an normal use time and turns off said power-supply-control means in a stand-by time.

7. An electronic device according to claim 6, further comprising:

pulse-detecting means for detecting a pulse signal transmitted from the first active element in response to rotary operation of said rotary operation unit to generate an

interrupt signal, wherein

said control means turns on said switching means by the interrupt signal from said pulse-detecting means, when said rotary operation unit is operated to rotate in said stand-by time.

8. An electronic device according to claim 1, further comprising

a structure in which a first casing and a second casing are connected to be capable of being opened and closed and

the rotary operation unit that is freely rotatable, wherein

said control means stops supplying power to said active elements when said casings are closed and starts supplying power to said active element when said casings are opened.